

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-14 ISO-00 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12
NEA-10 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01
CIAE-00 ERDA-07 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-04
INR-07 L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 USIA-15
SS-15 SP-02 INT-05 /167 W

-----011027 150743Z /14

R 141423Z OCT 77

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2031

INFO USUN NEW YORK 1294

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS NAIROBI 13423

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, UNEP

SUBJ: UNEP - THACHER MEETING WITH PERMREPS

1. IN FIRST MEETING WITH PERMREPS AND FOCAL POINTS, NEW
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNEP PETER THACHER DISCUSSED
RESTRUCTURING OF UNEP SECRETARIAT AND LONG-TERM DIRECTIONS
OF ORGANIZATION AS SEEN BY HIMSELF AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TOLBA.

2. DESCRIBING RESTRUCTURING AS INTRODUCING "MANAGEMENT BY
OBJECTIVES" CONCEPT TO UNEP OPERATIONS, THACHER POINTED
OUT THAT TASK FORCES ESTABLISHED UNDER RESTRUCTURING COVERED
ALL TWENTY-ONE GOALS SUGGESTED BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND
APPROVED BY GOVERNING COUNCIL AT FIFTH SESSION. RESPONSI-
BILITY FOR ACHIEVEMENT OF GOALS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS
IS SPECIFICALLY AND FULLY FIXED ON HEADS OF ORGANIZA-
TIONAL COMPONENTS CONCERNED (TASK FORCES, DIVISIONS, ETC.).
IN EFFORT TO REDUCE BARRIERS BETWEEN FUND AND PROGRAM,
FUND MANAGEMENT OFFICERS BEING ASSIGNED TO VARIOUS COMPONENTS
OF PROGRAM BUREAU.

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3. ON LONG TERM DIRECTIONS, THACHER CALLED ATTENTION TO
PATTERN OF INCREASING FOCUS ON DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES
(1979 CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT,
STRATEGY FOR THIRD DEVELOPMENT DECADE, ETC) IN UN SYSTEM.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEES INCREASED ROLE FOR UNEP IN ASSURING
THAT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TAKE ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

INTO ACCOUNT AS THEY PLAN THEIR DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES.
THUS A MAJOR PART OF UNEP'S ENERGIES WILL BE DEVOTED TO
CONTINUING PROGRESS ON ASSESSMENT SIDE OF PROGRAM TO ENABLE
IT TO PROVIDE RELEVANT INFORMATION TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
PLANNERS.

4. THACHER NOTED THAT UNEP IS MOVING FROM BILATERAL JOINT
PROGRAMMING EFFORTS WITH INDIVIDUAL SPECIALIZED AGENCIES
TO CONCEPT OF "THEMATIC JOINT PROGRAMMING" WITH SEVERAL
AGENCIES ON GIVEN THEME.

5. FINALLY, ON SUBJECT OF ENVIRONMENT FUND, THACHER
DESCRIBED PLEDGES FOR 1978-1982 AS "CONSIDERABLE BELOW"
LEVEL REQUIRED FOR MEDIUM TERM PLAN AND STRESSED NEED FOR
EARLY PLEDGES AND FOR NEW SOURCES. HE ANTICIPATES CASH
CARRY-OVER AT END OF 1977 SUFFICIENT TO MEET COMMITMENTS
THROUGH JUNE 1978.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NAIROB13423
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770378-0915
Format: TEL
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771060/aaaabymw.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3cc45b2f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 918979
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNEP - THACHER MEETING WITH PERMREPS
TAGS: SENV, KE, UNEP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3cc45b2f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009